



**Goddard Space Flight Center**



# **Mars Image Processing on Commodity Clusters**

**Science Data Processing Session**

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# Mars Image Processing on Clusters

## Need

- Mosaics and terrain data from sequences of images.
- Rapid turnaround for the rover navigation team in operations.

## Problem

- Current technology requires about 90 minutes per mosaic and 70 minutes per correlation pair.
- Requirements are 30 minutes for 2.5x larger datasets.

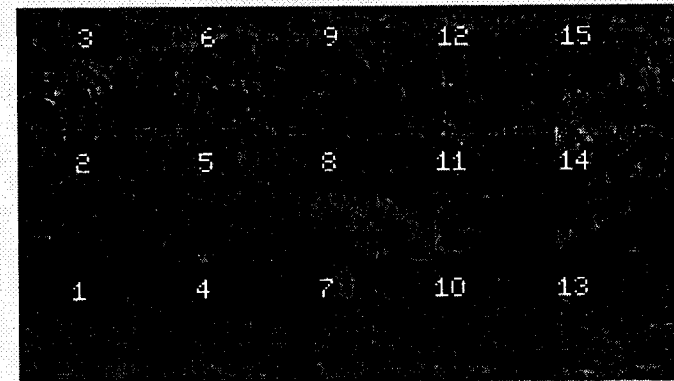
## Approach

- Parallelize on a commodity cluster.

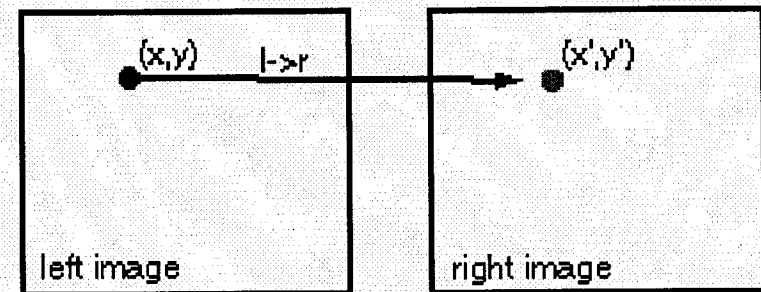
## Outline of Presentation

- Reduction of mosaic times.
- Reduction of correlation times.
- Enable correlation quality control.
- Increase correlation algorithm stability.

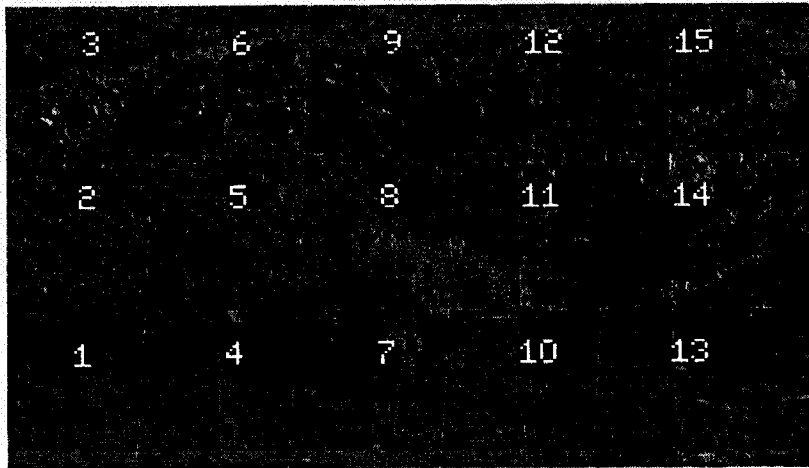
## Mosaics from many images



## Correlation of Stereo Pairs



# Mars Mosaic Images

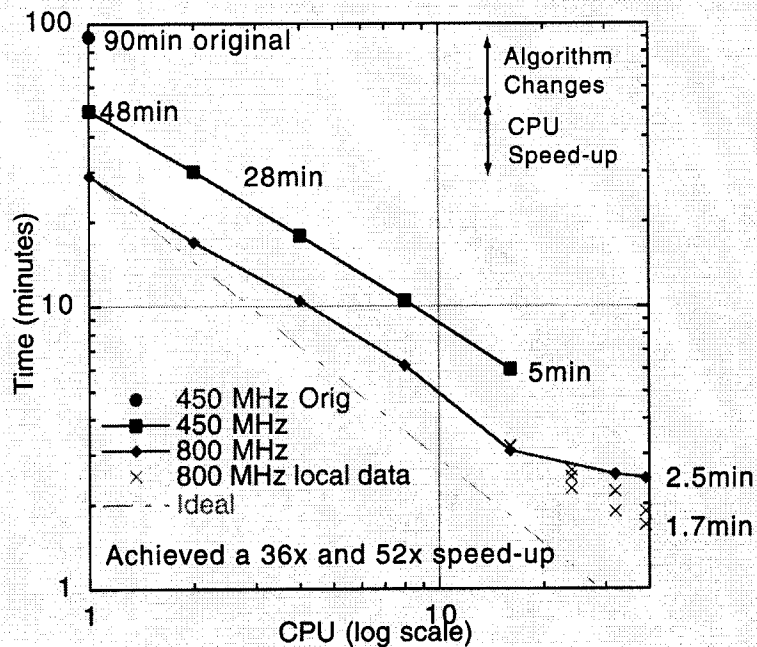


## Problem:

- Need to stitch together one single image from hundreds of individual images
- Software exists, but but takes 90minutes to assemble one image from 120 images.

## Approach:

- Optimize existing algorithm.
- Parallelize existing software
  - Subdivide image into slices 1 slice/CPU



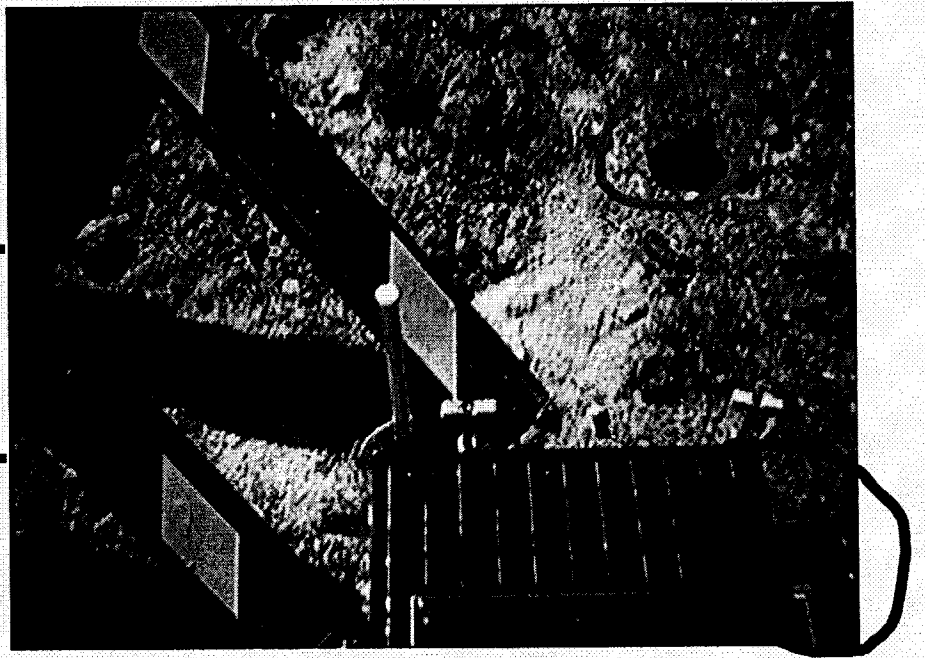
## Results:

- Starting point 450MHz: 90 minutes
- Algorithm Changes -
  - Storage of all images: 48 minutes
- 16 CPUs / 450MHz: 5 minutes
- 40 CPUs / 800MHz: 2.5 minutes
- with local data:
  - 40 CPUs / 800MHz: 1.7 minutes /

## Impact:

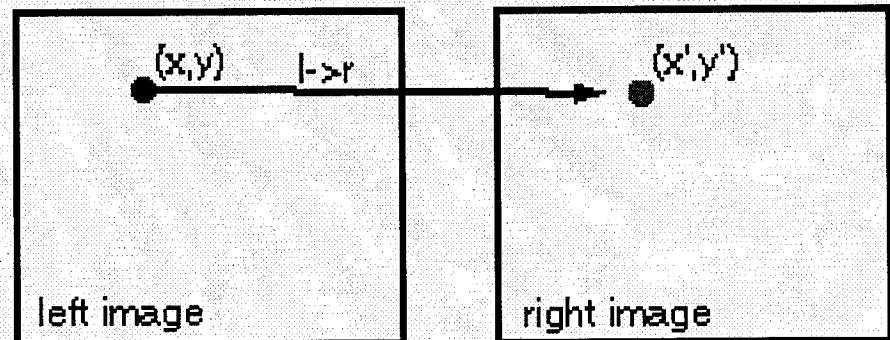
- Near real-time processing of mosaics.
- Software part of the processing pipeline

# Left & Right Stereo Image Correlation

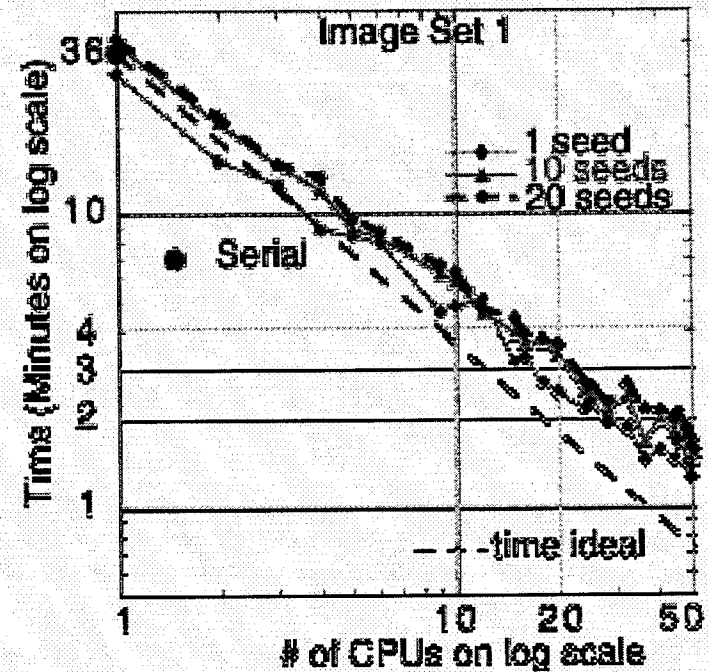
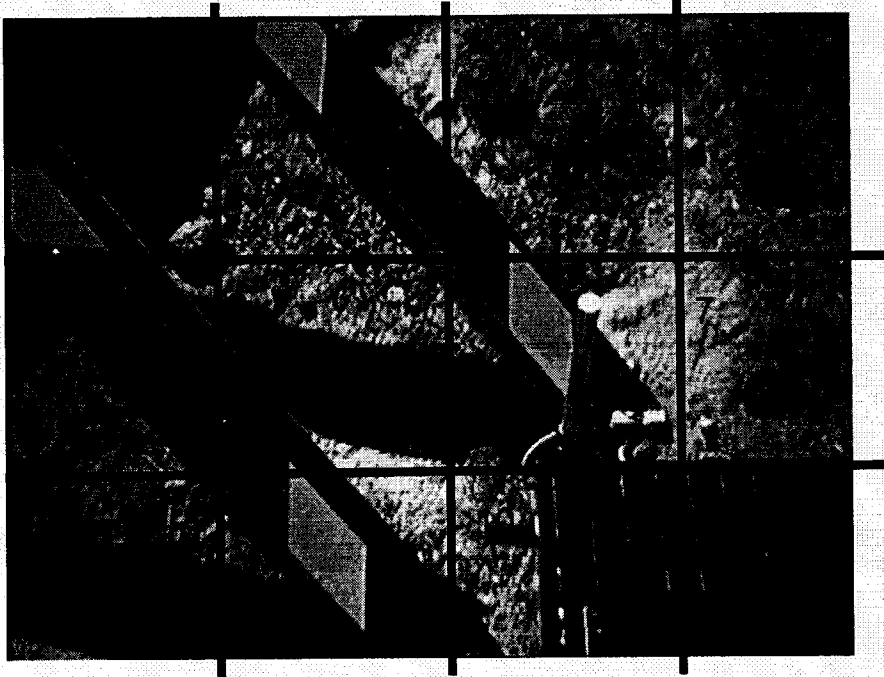


## Problem

- Need ranging data,  
->can deduce from relative shifts in  
left and right image  
->correlation
- Not all pixels can be correlated  
(parallax or terrain similarities)
- Computationally intensive



# Parallelization of Stereo Image Correlation



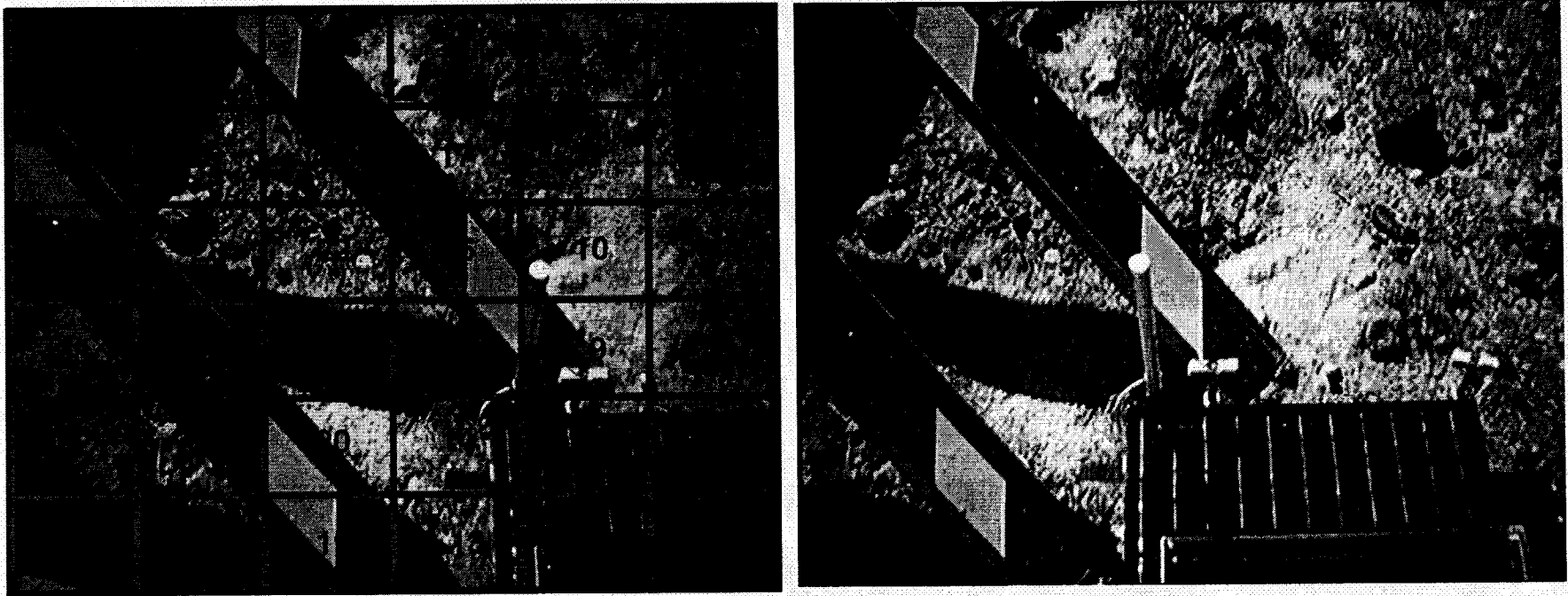
## Timing Results

- Original / 450 MHz: 65 minutes
- 1 CPU / 800 MHz: 36 minutes
- 20 CPUs / 800 MHz: 3 minutes
- 50 CPUs / 800 MHz: <1.5 min.

## Impact:

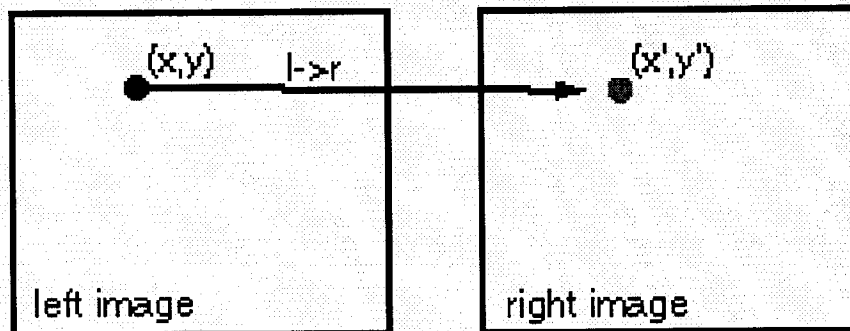
- Near real-time correlation capabilities.
- Enable **QUALITY CONTROL** of the correlation

# Correlation Error Can Occur Unchecked!

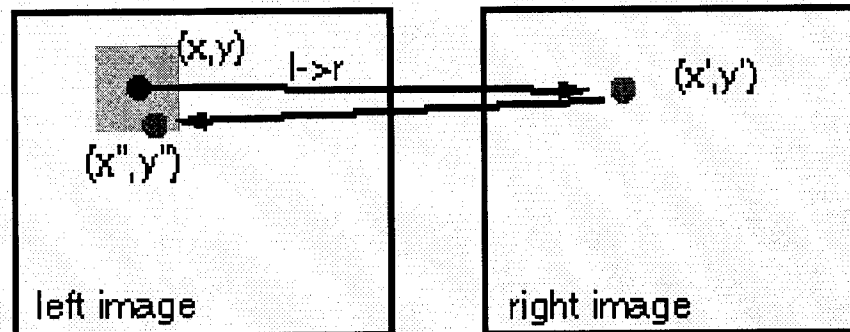


- CPUs 31-36 work on an area that does not exist in the right image
- Blue shaded pixels indicate successful correlation (from serial code)
  - segment 34 does not exist in right but was correlated -> ERROR

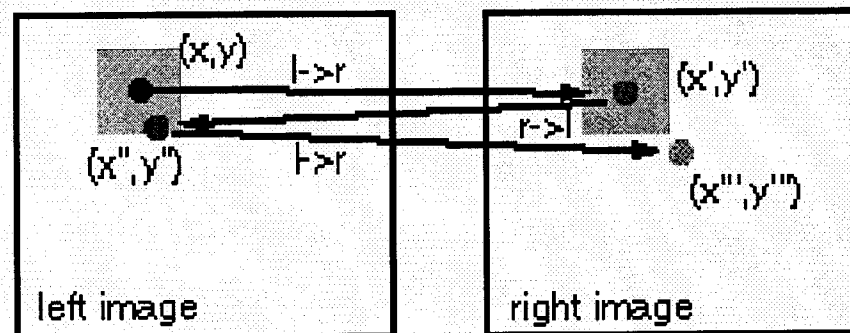
# Image Correlation Quality Control Algorithm



- Desired left->right mapping



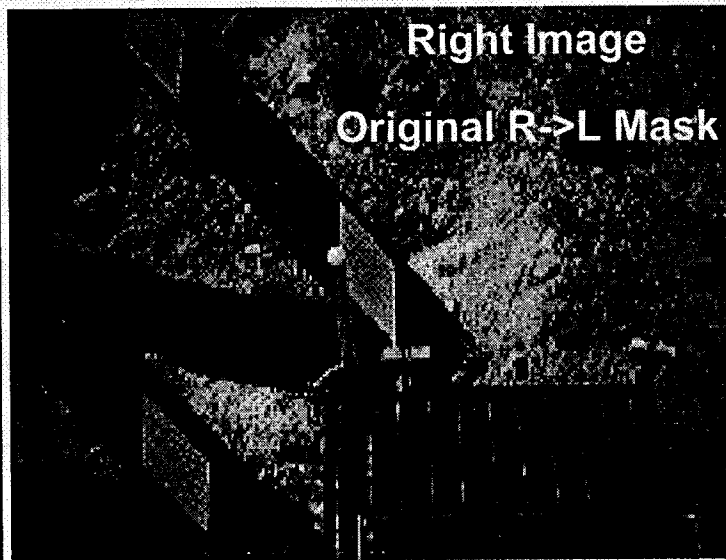
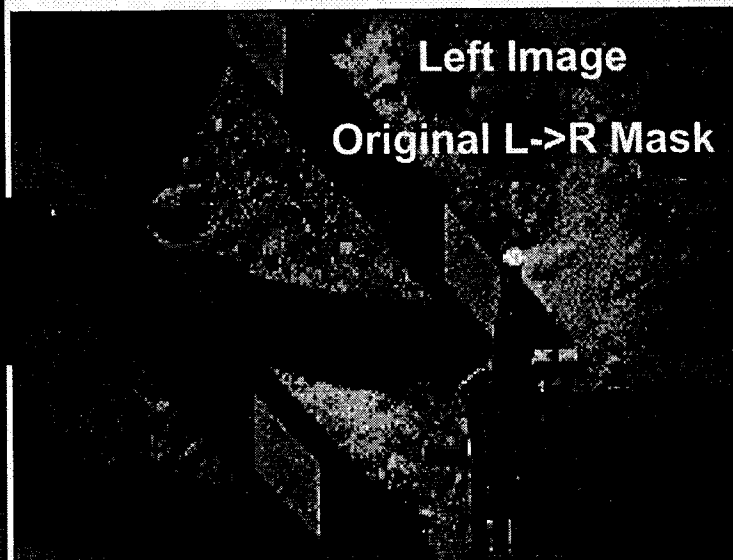
- Using a right->left mapping, can we get back to the original point?
  - Double the work load!
  - Can allow for error (yellow window)



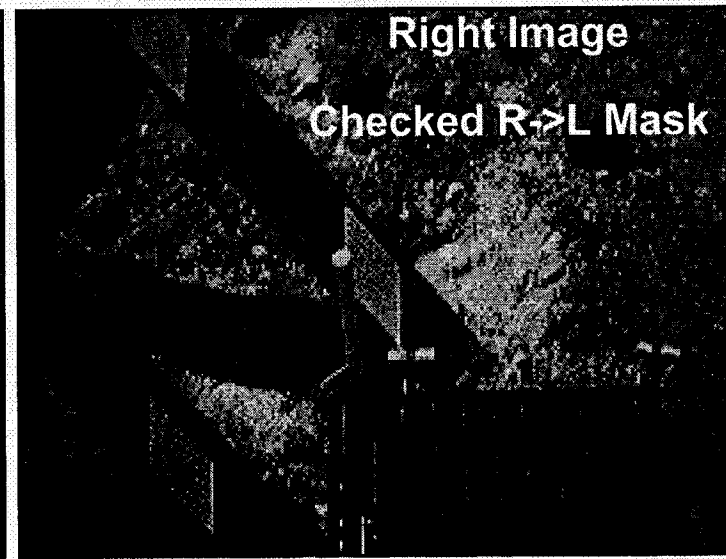
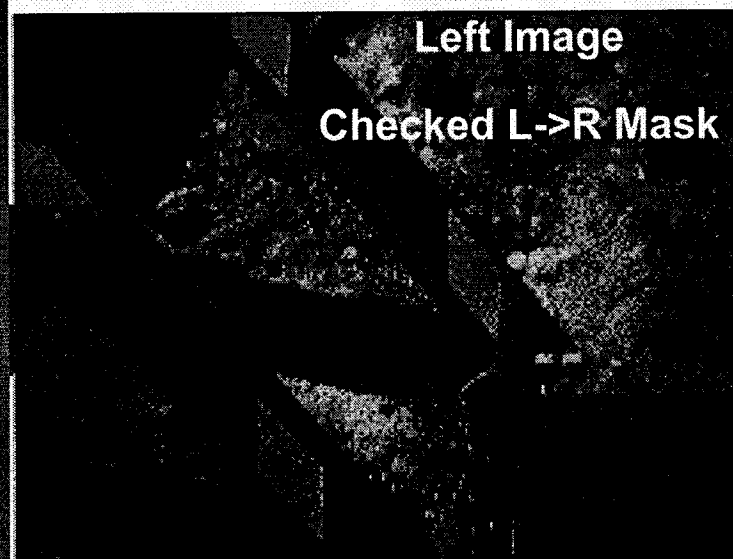
- Self-consistent check between left->right and right->left correlation.



# Quality Control Results



**Masks before  
quality control**

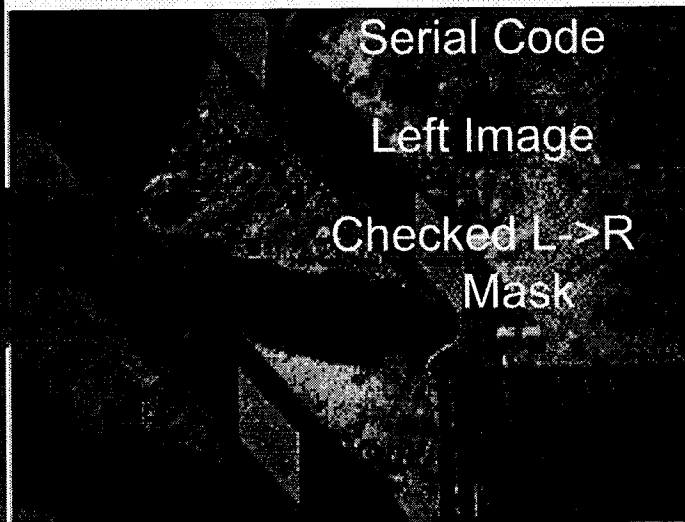


**Masks after  
quality control**

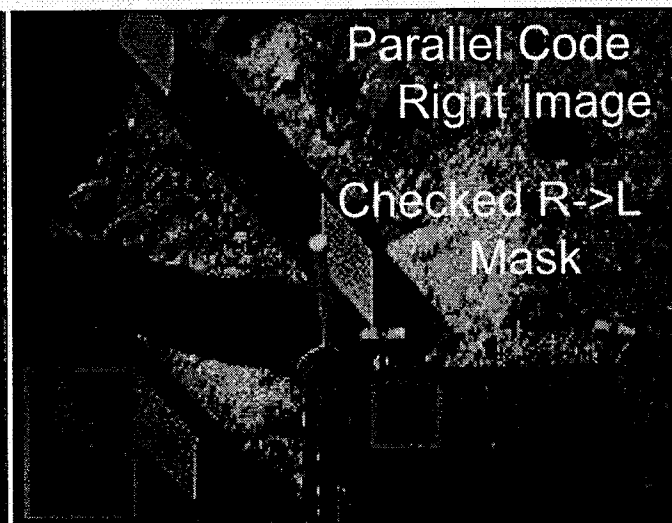
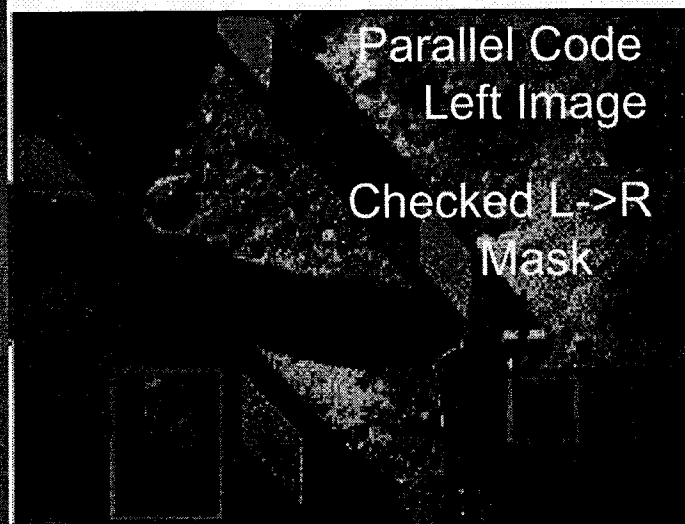
**Spurious L->R and R->L correlation pixels can be ELIMINATED**



# Parallel Correlation Gains Additional Areas!



**Serial results**



**Parallel results:**

- Use many more seeds.
- Gain additional areas
- Checkerboard still a problem

# Mars Image Processing on Clusters

## Mosaics from many images

### Problem

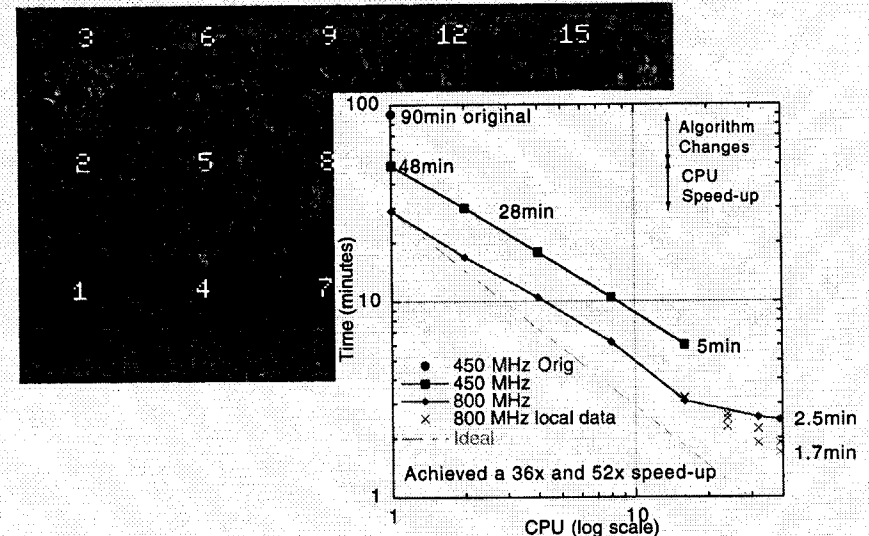
- Current technology requires about 90min per mosaic and each correlation pair.
- Requirements are 30 minutes

### Provided Solution

- Parallelize on a commodity cluster
- Reduction mosaic time to < 3 minutes
- Reduction of correlation times to < 3 minutes
- Enable correlation quality control by running correlation twice and weeding out bad pixels

### Impact

- Exceeded required time reduction
- Pixel correlation verification
- Correlator now has a forced completion, prior serial code could run indefinitely.



## Correlation of Stereo Pairs

